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Statement submitted by Federation Europeenne des Centres de Recherche et d'Information sur le Sectarisme (FECRIS), a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.

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Statement

In the United Nations post 2015 Inequalities Consultation, it was noted a relative neglect of marginalized groups widening in social inequities. Many sect organizations suffer from female discrimination, abuse and sexual slavery. They truly need social protection systems and victim assistance with ongoing support with access to competent public services.

We at the Fédération Européenne des Centres de Recherche et d'Information sur le Sectarisme have observed a characteristic problem with cult or extremist terrorists' organizations that women and girls are seen as inferior or lesser beings through totalitarian indoctrination and authoritarian abusive leadership. This serious imbalance of power relationship seriously interferes with the fundamental human rights of women and minor females. The Commission on the Status of Women is committed to protection of human rights but also the rights of children have been on record as well. We at the Fédération Européenne des Centres de Recherche et d'Information sur le Sectarisme support these hard won human rights accomplishments. We also are committed on the international venue approach to the United Nations that a more informed public awareness come to light. It can be expressed through the Commission on the Status of Women concerning the devastating plight of female sect members abusive discrimination and are despised when they do not comply to cultic demands.

We at Fédération Européenne des Centres de Recherche et d'Information sur le Sectarisme need to network and bring to awareness to the 2019 Commission on the Status of Women 63 concerning unwanted gender discrimination and the empowerment of women and minor girls. It is most important to understand the destructive nature of complete control cult leaders have over their female victims. Decent work for all is truly lacking for women and female minors in sects and extremist terrorist groups. Many impoverished females are not paid salaries or very low subsistence wages for their labour and children are especially exploited as virtual or actual slaves without pay. Cult leadership collect vast amount financial gain for themselves with no social welfare programs and without retirement provision for active sect members. There is truly a crucial human outcry for a social protection system for such a needy population that we at Fédération Européenne des Centres de Recherche et d'Information sur le Sectarisme must address before the 2019 Commission on the Status of Women 63. We also appreciate the ongoing accomplishments and resources this Commission has made available to the United Nations.

When addressing cult inequities for women and minor females and gender parity in education is truly lacking for females due to lack of status in sect life. Due to inferior status expressed in extremist sect life where young female minors and women are sexual slaves, some suffer genital mutilation and can be sold to other sect leaders as personal property. Violence against females for total compliance can extend to physical abuse and forced unwanted marriages without remedy inside the destructive cult. Outside access to public services with a viable sustainable infrastructure is truly needed for a population such as this needs addressing. We at Fédération Européenne des Centres de Recherche et d'Information sur le Sectarisme would support efforts towards true fully informed choices concerning outside commission resources. Educational resources without discrimination and protection of female and human rights with equity will go a long way toward a healthy transition with healing and potential recovery. The problem with totally controlled cult life for women that live in closed communities from the outside world is that women's rights are rendered virtually invisible to non-sect members. It is important to address the vulnerability and inequities imposed on this female population.

It is also important to observe the Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women that provided the basis for protection against discrimination toward women and younger females. Legal tools and resources are truly needed for female cult victims and their families. These options can empower women to access human and social rights. The opportunities for participation and leadership in the economy, society and political decision-making. The structural determinants of gender-based inequities based on international commission research is in having access to resources.

The Commission on the Status of Women wants to eradicate violence against women and girls to ensure fair access to social services and resources and to guarantee women's inclusion in post-conflict decision making processes. Minor female and child sexual abuse victims need special assistance and our Fédération Européenne des Centres de Recherche et d'Information sur le Sectarisme organization has specialized experts and experience to provide for the 2019 Commission on the Status of Women 63 where appropriate.

It is really important in terms of cult life that thematic consultation on education approaches the needs of young female cult members that needs parity and addresses the learning outcomes of girls. It is vital that they complete primary, secondary and tertiary education that includes the dignity of human rights for females. Child sex abuse amongst cult teachers is not transparent to our outside mainstream democratic and open societies. Required legal reporting measures are needed and the improvement and safety, security and wellbeing of students around our schools for children. The sect lifestyle concerning children is seriously under reported concerning abusive practices in cult learning centres or schools but second-generation cult children, especially report these abuses to the outside world. In the arena of access to public services the 2019 Commission on the Status of Women 63 can be instrumental in facilitating these critical resources for the empowerment of these females.

The Governance consultation provides opportunities for women provide access to female sect victims to address discrimination and inequities imposed on them by cult subjugation and compliance to abusive group hierarchies. When dealing with governance of the economy cult members deprived of the mainstream societal channels to most non-cult members would apply appropriately. The procedure to access social protection needs education and understanding. Accessing those resources can help Fédération Européenne des Centres de Recherche et d'Information sur le Sectarisme serve this special community along with the Commission on the Status of Women in a mutual networking for the better welfare women and female minors. The Health consultation provide women and minor females need health care resources that totalitarian cult organizations deprived hard working active members. Many sects lack the financial provision for health care coverage for the average cult member. Many cult victims do not have the financial resources to protect themselves for health maintenance and even worse a real health crisis. It is not uncommon for cult members to suffer long term preventable health problems. It is due to inexpensive substandard diets and lack of health care maintenance and long-term neglect. The violation of basic human rights contributes greatly toward health neglect. The Commission on the Status of Women has promoted access to quality, comprehensive, integrated health care services, that includes counselling for women and girls. We at Fédération Européenne des Centres de Recherche et d'Information sur le Sectarisme would want to assist female sect victims with this commission towards better health and healing towards women and females who truly need it.

In order to progress in achieving the noble goals social protection for women cult members and all females. An accountability framework is essential for real tangible success to work. Cults have a very long and troubling history of avoiding public transparency and accountability. They protect their assets and wealth over the

fundamental human rights of individual cult victims. The harm and human abuse costs are tragic and devastating. Gender based discrimination needs solution-oriented access to a sustainable social infrastructure to provide access to qualified and appropriate public services. This can be helpful in prospects for eliminating poverty. Protection patterns are needed supported by public and transparent policies accessible to those who truly need it. The 2019 Commission on the Status of Women 63 can be instrumental channel towards assisting those women and other females toward empowerment. We at Fédération Européenne des Centres de Recherche et d'Information sur le Sectarisme desire to work with such noble goals and efforts toward the betterment of women former members towards a better and brighter future.